GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:973
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
FOREIGN TRAWLERS
GORDHANBHAI JAVIA;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign trawlers are permitted to operate in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that more than the permissible foreign trawlers are in operation in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of Indian fishermen?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): As per the decision of the Government on the recommendations of the Committee to Review Deep Sea Fishing Policy, foreign fishing vessels under Lease Policy of 1991 are permitted to operate in the Exclusive Economic Zone(EEZ) of the country. Presently, five Companies with 26 valid permits are in operation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d). Question does not arise.

(e): To conserve, develop and optimally exploit the fisheries resources within the EEZ and to safeguard the interest of all groups of fishermen. Government has set-up an Expert Group to formulate a Comprehensive Policy for Marine Fisheries.